

Opinions

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Acorn
Draw University
Founded in 1928
Alan Langlieb Peter litton Leslee York
Editor Managing Editor Executive Editor
A weekly newspaper of the Drew Community by the students of the College of Liberal Arts.

The Acorn welcomes letters from our readers which are relevant to issues of concern to Drew students. Letters should be sent to The Acorn via campus mail box L-321. Deadline for publication in the same week is 4 p.m. Tuesday. All letters must be signed and addressed. Names will be withheld upon request.
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Time for something old

"I'm mad as hell and I'm not gonna take it any more!" In the 1976 film "Network," Peter Finch galvanized audiences with these words, uttered with a primal, white-hot fury.

The students of Drew University returned to a housing situation that was pathetic. Rooms without desks. Desks without drawers. Beds without mattresses. Doors without knobs.

Some students didn't even have rooms; the victims of computer whimsy. (We're sorry, but you don't exist according to our records. Click. We're sorry, but you don't exist....)

Year after year, the students have been subjected to housing conditions that in other times would have caused unpleasantness (Attica ring a bell?). But not to worry, this year something new is in the air. Change, or so they say....

In the past, the students received reassurance upon promise upon word of honor that this time it really absolutely 100 percent won't happen again. Then fall rolls around, and the students receive their notice, the one that says that they are "Cordially invited to a shafting." Guess whose.

And year after year, the students, like a shopworn hooker, lie there and take it, hoping it'll be over soon.

But it wasn't always so. With great reluctance, the late 60's and early 70's are held up as an example of a time when things were different. Free love. The Sexual Revolution. Crabs. Bell bottoms. Nehru jackets (Did anyone actually own one of those things?). Be-ins. Laugh-in. Yecch!

But it was also a time of student activism, a time when students stood up for something that they believed in (no matter how misguided). They marched for peace. They marched for racial equality. They marched to protest injustice.

They suffered the onus of Administrators who wouldn't listen, who rode slapshot over their wants, needs, rights. And they did something about it. There were sit-ins. They took over administration buildings.

The point is, they made it impossible for the Establishment to ignore them. And ignoring students is something that the Administration has excelled at recently.

How many students have felt that the only way to get results is to have their parents come in and scream at some suit and tie behind a desk? Why do parents get the attention of the Administration as students never can?

It's called the power of the pocket-book. "Mommy and Daddy write the checks, so shut up, Junior, stop bitching about the food, and get back in your hovel."

In past years, the Acorn, like the students, has been content to complain about the current state of affairs. "Wait and see. It'll get better. Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus."

No more. Administrators, to their credit, have been heard to say that there is no excuse for the state of campus housing.

To that we add that there is no excuse for the University billing a student for room and board when they are providing rooms devoid of furniture, ceilings that leak water, toilets that don't flush and windows that lack glass.

No excuse for letting a student know that there is a problem with his bill by denying him food.

The students must stand up for their rights. Paying for services not rendered is stupid. Allowing the Administration to walk all over the students is criminal. And to those students who do nothing but complain, remember that you reap what you sow.

Remember the crazed broadcaster?
"I'm mad as hell and I'm not gonna take it any more!"
Sounds good to us.

Let your voice be heard:
Send your letters to the
Acorn for a change

Letters to the Editor

DJ's dumped

To the Editor:

In Bob Seger's song "Old Time Rock n' Roll," there is a line that goes: "just take those old records off the shelf, I'll sit and listen to them by myself."

Well, if Seger was a rock n' roll deejay for WMNJ in the past, he may be forced to listen to his music by himself. WMNJ, the "voice" of Drew University, has made rock expendable.

The WMNJ executive board has formatted the station towards progressive music, the type played on many campuses and campus stations. Under this guise, nearly 10 percent of last year's deejays are off the air. Curiously, they played rock, particularly from the 60's and 70's.

Remember, executive board members say they are doing it for the benefit of WMNJ. Just coincidence that the person who makes the schedule (air staff director Colleen Dube) is a big fan of progressive music. Like American hostages being freed in Lebanon coincidentally with shipments of arms—no connection. Right.

There was a time last year when Dube and general manager Melissa Kennedy would bend over backwards for a deejay, especially an experienced one. Now that they are in charge, well....

It is understandable that WMNJ is interested in presenting an alternative selection of music to Top-40 and classic rock stations, but why let go of the old deejays while bringing in a smaller number of first-time rock deejays?

But Dube showed more than bad taste when she decreased the rock staff. An example of her thorough contempt for those of us who play rock came in a recent mailing to me after a September 9 general staff meeting. A schedule delivered to me had the following to say: "You're not getting a show; you can take it personally." Signed by who else? "Your Air Staff Director." WMNJ secretary Audra Daninhirsch confirmed that Dube signed the note.

WMNJ used to be an organization for all students, but how can the station maintain this claim if progressive music fans will be catered with preferential treatment over rock deejays. How can you explain freshmen getting good shows over a junior with four semesters of experience?

Now the serious problem exists of a student organization, funded by ECAB, and supposedly for everyone, shutting its doors or pushing out people because of taste. This isn't racism, but it is prejudice, and there is no reason Drew should service a prejudiced institution. How can WMNJ expect to move to 100 watts and respectability if the station acts on whim and preference rather than fairness?

In the East Bloc nations, there is only state-run media, unless people can pick-up Radio-Free Europe radio. Is it time for Radio-Free Drew?

Dalton Einhorn
News Director, WMNJ; ex-DJ
Rob O'Connor
Ex-Technical Director; ex-DJ
Jeremy Bloch
ex-DJ
Ken Weingarten
ex-DJ
Dave Baskin
ex-listener

Val-Dine-less cards

To the Editor:

There seems to be a situation on campus that has been making hassles for many undergraduates within the last week. The situation involves the Business Office and the functioning of Val-Dine cards.

Apparently many Guaranteed Student Loans have not been received by the Business Office and therefore they feel it necessary to turn off Val-Dine cards, in many cases without notification to the students and after business hours so that the situation cannot be corrected until the next day. This in turn prevents students from eating meals that they have already paid for, as well as prohibiting students from cashing checks on campus.

What seems ridiculous to me is that Drew University gives a deadline of October 15th for GSL's to come through and then penalizes students because their GSL's are not at Drew by the second week in September.

Furthermore, most students have no control

over GSL's, it is the bank who has them. In addition, I fail to see the relationship between making students starve on campus and the delay in government money that Drew already knows is on its way to them (they put it on the financial aid package didn't they?).

I feel that the whole situation is uncalled for and unnecessary. Moreover, what about the meals students were forced to miss? Will they be reimbursed? Will the Business Office and the Financial Aid Office continue this lack of communication between themselves and the students? For the money that we, the students, and our parents pay to this school we deserve to be treated with much more respect.

Hopefully the situation in question will soon be rectified and will not occur again.

Michelle E. Gaseau

D-Day thanks

To the Editor:

On behalf of the 1987-88 Social Committee Executive Board, we would like to share some thoughts on our Second Annual Drew Day.

First, we would like to extend our most sincere thanks to everyone who participated in and added to the success of the weekend's events. We applaud the efforts of the athletic teams and also the students who came out to support them with enthusiasm and banners, despite the weather.

We would especially like to express our gratitude to those administrative offices and student organizations whose generous contributions made many of the weekend's events possible, namely the Admissions Office, the Alumni Office, the Athletic Department, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, the Dean of Students, E.C.A.B., the Housing Office, the Office of Student Activities, and the Office of the Vice President.

It is our strong hope that Drew Day Weekend will continue with increased popularity in years to come. We appeal to administrative offices and student organizations to consider Drew Day while planning next year's budgets so that Drew Day will be the culmination of the combined efforts of students, faculty, and administration.

We see in Drew Day the potential for fostering vitality and pride among the Drew Community and for establishing a greatly needed and long lasting Drew tradition.

In the True Spirit of Drew
Denise O'Grady and Stacy Fischer
Social Committee Co-Chairpersons

D-Day thanks II

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and praise all of those people and offices who helped to make Drew Weekend such a great success. Despite the rain, over 400 people witnessed the athletic tournaments on Saturday, and the attendance at the evening's events was excellent.

Thanks go to the Vice President's Office, the Dean of the C.L.A., the Dean of Student Life, the Housing Office, the Alumni Office, the Admissions Office and E.C.A.B. for their funding support. Many thanks should also go to the Acorn for their coverage of the event.

We can't forget the sports teams who provided us with such exciting games. Last, but certainly not least, sincere thanks and appreciation go to the Social Committee, chaired by Stacy Fischer and Denise O'Grady, for putting the weekend together.

The Office of Student Activities is pleased with the effort made by the students to support Drew Weekend. Let us continue with more innovative programming ideas.

Tullio Z. Nieman
Director
Student Activities

Ritzy facewipes

To the Editor:

I went to the Commons for dinner one night, and guess what they had? Drew University napkins.

That's right. Napkins with the Drew crest and motto printed on them. And in the school colors, too—nice shades of blue and green. All for wiping one's mouth on while eating.

And people wonder why the Director of Student Activities is working on a "shoestring" budget.

Steve Maginnis
Senior

"Pope John Paul II: World Tour '87"

By Jack Kelleher
Staff Writer

THIS fall's Papal visit has failed to address or resolve any of the differences between the Vatican and the American Catholic population.

A flood of "Go Ahead, Bless My Day" buttons and "let us Spray" lawn sprinklers recently heralded the arrival of the most recognizable public figure since Ronald Reagan.

For the second time in eight years, the globetrotting John Paul II has come to the United States, visiting no less than nine cities in ten days. Having visited over thirty other countries during his ministry, it would seem that his visits have become state of the art.

"World Tour '87," with its string of stadium-filled masses and theological gatherings, has advanced to the point where any deviation in the program is carefully avoided.

Vatican Officials hope to avoid any repeats of the impromptu confrontation of eight years ago, when the Pope was questioned by an order of nuns about the

limited role of women in the Catholic Church.

On this visit, all addresses to the Pope have been screened by the Vatican. Yes, the Pope will hear muted rumblings through the well-scrutinized texts, but the facade of a united Catholic front will be in evidence.

The Pope will say his piece on the needy of the Third World, an all male celibate clergy, the proscription on all things extra-marital, and then he will move on.

A great media image will have been broadcast; there will be a glorious Papal afterglow until the last "Lollypope" has been licked, but there will have been no real dialogue.

Spontaneity, something lacking in this tour, is extremely important because, what with everything having been planned to the last Glory Be, there is no room for a positive exchange of ideas and concerns.

The Pope has chosen places in the South like Biloxi, Mississippi, to make his pleas against poverty and racism, and they are well taken. But dissenters cannot choose the time and place to make their

appeals heard. If the Pope refuses to acknowledge them in the public eye, then they have no recourse. As CEO, the Pope's word is final (and when last checked, still infallible).

However, unlike the citizens of his native Poland, who, dissatisfied with the Party line, have no freedom of choice, those dissatisfied with the Church can freely withdraw.

A recent New York Times poll suggests that perhaps it's time for the Catholic Church to start worrying. Of those American Catholics polled, 64 percent favored artificial means of birth control, 59 percent favored allowing priests to marry, and 56 percent favored women priests. Most surprising of all was the 55 percent of American priests favoring a change in the rules of celibacy.

If the Catholic Church is to remain a vibrant moral and social force in American society, it must listen to the views of its American followers, no matter how unsavory they might seem. While such issues as abortion and birth control are antithetical to Catholicism in any form, a more open examination of them should

not be discouraged.

And as for those issues more grounded in the social, rather than individual, arena, like marriage amongst the clergy and women in the priesthood, they should be examined in the context of the twentieth-century. For example, in an age of declining ordination and the rise of sexual equality, it would make sense to invigorate the clergy by allowing women to enter the priesthood.

This does not mean that American Catholics should speak for the other 650 million Catholics world-wide, as there is more at issue than the concerns of just 52 million Americans. It simply means that the door should be open to expression and discussion of these concerns.

So, while this visit is important in its ability to give people physical access to the Pope, it should also encourage theological access. Perhaps this could be accomplished with more time spent behind closed doors with clerical and non-clerical interest groups, and less time spent on the stage of an amphitheatre, playing to the cameras.

Misspent ECAB funds are stolen funds

By George Furman
Staff Writer

MONEY has been stolen from the Extracurricular Activities Board (ECAB). For several years, through the misappropriation of funds, money has been diverted from its original recipients, the students.

Approximately \$1,100 has been channeled through the Photo Club Gallery, not to benefit the students, but to serve the university's system.

ECAB money comes from the undergraduate's pockets, and is intended for use by the undergraduates. The Photo Club has been maintaining the Drew University Photo Gallery, yet few undergraduates have made use of the gallery.

It has been used mostly by people from

off-campus or other universities. The gallery has become a way to get people to visit Drew.

There has never been anything wrong with maintaining relations with the outside community. What has become problematic is ECAB's having been volunteered to carry out that mission.

At the gallery, undergraduates have done little more than acknowledge photography as an artform. Roughly 90 percent of the shows in the gallery have been by professional photographers, used because it was believed that Drew students would learn from it.

True, they have learned by observing the work of experts, but at \$300 to \$500 a show, it has been an inefficient means of education.

The gallery could be better utilized,

perhaps, by emphasizing the work of Drew students. Undergraduate painters, sculptors and photographers need to have their works displayed more than once a year.

Students don't charge to have their work displayed; instead they learn from having their works critiqued by the public.

By featuring only Drew artists, the gallery costs would be lessened. Shows which once cost \$500 to obtain and exhibit, would now become \$50 shows. The only major cost would be the salaries of the Gallery Sitters. The remaining monies would go back to the undergraduates.

The Photo Club Gallery should be transferred to the Art Department, which is best suited to produce the shows. After

all, art professors should know who the artists are.

Transferring control of the gallery to the Art Department shouldn't strain their budget. In the past, the University has split the cost of the sitters' salaries with ECAB.

The Photo Club could still sponsor exhibits in the gallery: photos by Drew students. Money would be saved, as there would no longer be the expense of paying for outside artists.

The funds provided to the Photo Club must be spent effectively. ECAB cannot afford to spend money on programming which does not benefit the undergraduate population.

If the expenditure does not provide a valuable good for the people, then it must be stopped.

Misspent funds are stolen funds.

Confucius say: writers for the
Acorn are like chinese tea leaves,
the more you have the better
the reading becomes...

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